

Message Text

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TO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 055018

EXDIS TOSEC 339

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PFOR,BR

SUBJECT: LETTER FROM BRAZILIAN FONMIN SILVEIRA

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM BOWDLER

1. FOLLOWING LETTER DATED MARCH 5, 1975 FROM FOREIGN MINISTER SILVEIRA TO SECRETARY WAS DELIVERED BY BRAZILIAN EMBASSY MARCH 10.
2. BEGIN QUOTE: MY DEAR HENRY, I HAVE AT HAND YOUR LETTER OF FEBRUARY 28 CONCERNING YOUR RECENT MISSION TO THE MIDDLE EAST, AND NOTE WITH GREAT SATISFACTION THAT IT RESULTED IN POSITIVE AND INDISPUTABLE CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARDS EASING THE TENSIONS IN THAT REGION. IT IS MY SINCERE DESIRE THAT ON YOUR NEXT VISIT TO THE MIDDLE EAST, THE UNDERSTANDINGS SO PATIENTLY AND ABLY ADVOCATED BY YOU MAY TAKE FORMAL SHAPE.
3. I READ ALSO WITH MUCH ATTENTION YOUR HOUSTON SPEECH, ASSUREDLY OF MAJOR INTEREST FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF HEMISPHERIC RELATIONS. MANY OF THE QUESTIONS APPROACHED IN IT WILL CERTAINLY BE AMONG THE SUBJECTS WHICH, WHETHER FORMALLY OR INFORMALLY, WE SHALL HAVE AN OCCASION TO DEAL WITH DURING YOUR NEXT VISIT TO BRAZIL. BY THE WAY, I WAS
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INTRIGUED AT YOUR REFERENCE TO THE BRAZILIAN EPIC POET,

WHOM, TO BE FRANK, I WAS UNABLE TO IDENTIFY.

4. ON MY PART, I HAD THE PLEASURE OF QUOTING YOU IN THE INAUGURAL LECTURE WHICH I DELIVERED ON THE 5TH, IN RECIFE, AT THE INVITATION OF THE FACULTY OF THE LAW SCHOOL OF THE STATE OF PERNAMBUCO, ON THE OCCASION OF THE OPENING OF THE COURSES OF THAT INSTITUTION. I ENCLOSE AN ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF THE LECTURE WHICH I ORDERED TO BE MADE IN THE HOPE THAT, AMIDST THE MANY DEMANDS FOR YOUR TIME, PERHAPS DURING ONE OF YOUR VOYAGES, YOU MIGHT FIND SOME MOMENTS TO READ IT. I VIEW THIS TEXT AS IMPORTANT DUE TO THE FACT THAT, HAVING IN VIEW ITS DIDACTIC PURPOSE, I WAS ABLE TO MAKE IT A SYSTEMATIC PRESENTATION OF THE IDEAS UNDERLYING PRESIDENT ERNESTO GEISEL'S ACTION IN FOREIGN POLICY. AT THE SAME TIME, THE SUMMARY WHICH I MADE OF THE MAIN CHANGES IN FOREIGN POLICY DURING THE PAST TWELVE MONTHS, AS A RESULT OF THE APPLICATION OF THOSE CONCEPTS, MIGHT BE OF USE TO YOU TOWARDS AN UNDERSTANDING OF OUR FOREIGN POLICY ATTITUDES AT A BILATERAL LEVEL AS WELL AS REGIONALLY AND IN A WORLD-WIDE SENSE.

5. PLEASE ACCEPT WARMEST GREETINGS FROM YOUR ANTONIO.
END TEXT.

6. SUMMARY OF SPEECH TO WHICH SILVEIRA REFERS IS CONTAINED IN TOSEC 262. IN ADDITION SPEECH QUOTES FOLLOWING PASSAGE FROM YOUR "CENTRAL PROBLEMS OF AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY" (1968) AS FOLLOWS:

7. BEGIN QUOTE: IT IS THE ESSENCE OF A SATISFIED, ADVANCED SOCIETY THAT IT PUTS A PREMIUM ON OPERATION WITH FAMILIAR PROCEDURES AND CONCEPTS. IT DRAWS ITS MOTIVATION FROM THE PRESENT, AND IT DEFINES EXCELLENCE BY THE ABILITY TO MANIPULATE AN ESTABLISHED FRAMEWORK. BUT FOR THE MAJOR PART OF HUMANITY, THE PRESENT BECOMES ENDURABLE ONLY THROUGH A VISION OF THE FUTURE. TO MOST AMERICANS - INCLUDING MOST AMERICAN LEADERS - THE SIGNIFICANT REALITY IS WHAT THEY SEE AROUND THEM. BUT FOR THE MOST OF THE WORLD - INCLUDING MANY OF THE LEADERS OF THE NEW NATIONS -
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THE SIGNIFICANT REALITY IS WHAT THEY WISH TO BRING ABOUT. IF WE REMAIN NOTHING BUT THE MANAGERS OF OUR PHYSICAL PATRIMONY, WE WILL GROW INCREASINGLY IRRELEVANT...END QUOTE.

8. SILVEIRA GOES ON TO SAY: QUOTE: LET US HOPE THESE WORDS OF THE UNIVERSITY ANALYST OF YESTERDAY WILL HELP TODAY'S POLICY MAKER, FOR THE SOLUTION OF THE CRISIS

THROUGH WHICH WE ARE LIVING WILL GREATLY DEPEND ON THEIR
UNDERSTANDING BY THE LEADERS OF THE WORLD'S GREAT

NATIONS. END QUOTE.

9. PRINCIPAL THRUST OF SPEECH IS VARIATION OF GOB THEME
THAT INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES MUST REACH A POLITICAL
DECISION TO PROVIDE FOR REDISTRIBUTION OF ECONOMIC WEALTH
SO THAT LESS ADVANTAGED COUNTRIES CAN ASSUME THEIR
APPROPRIATE PLACE IN SUN. SILVEIRA STATES THAT IN TIME
OF RAPID CHANGE IT IS "IMPRUDENT TO DISREGARD THE
DYNAMICS OF FACTS AND TO MAINTAIN WITHOUT ALTERATION THE
COURSES FORMERLY JUSTIFIED BY AN HISTORICAL SERENITY
ALREADY SUPERSEDED". THUS BRAZIL SEEKS TO MAKE AND
UTILIZE NEW OPPORTUNITIES IN FRAMEWORK OF A FOREIGN POLICY
THAT CAN BE SUMMARIZED IN CONCEPTS OF "PRAGMATISM",
"RESPONSIBILITY" AND "ECUMENISM". BRAZILIAN POLITICAL
ECUMENISM IS DESCRIBED AS "THE REJECTION OF ALL FORMS OF
HEGEMONY AND THE PRACTICE OF REAL AND DYNAMIC INTERDEPEN-
DENCE". BUT, HE SAYS, "INTERDEPENDENCE CANNOT SET LIMITS
TO THE PROCESS OF DEVELOPMENT OF THE LESS ADVANCED COUN-
TRIES, NOR CAN IT CONDEMN THEM TO AN UNSOLVABLE VICIOUS
SOCIO-ECONOMIC CIRCLE". IT SHOULD NOT BE A "VERTICAL"
RELATIONSHIP BASED ON SUBORDINATION WHICH FORCES DEVELOP-
ING COUNTRIES TO SPECIALIZE AS SUPPLIERS OF RAW MATERIALS
AND CLIENTS OF INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES; IT MUST BE A
"HORIZONTAL" RELATIONSHIP BASED ON COOPERATION AND FAIR
ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES. THE PRINCIPAL GAP TO BE BRIDGED
IS NOT THAT OF INCOME BUT RATHER THAT OF GLOBAL DECISION
MAKING WHICH EFFECTIVELY EXCLUDES POORER COUNTRIES FROM
REAL PARTICIPATION IN THE OVERALL DECISION MAKING PROCESS.

10. WE ARE WORKING ON SUGGESTED REPLY WHICH I WILL
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SEND TO YOU TOMORROW. INGERSOLL

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